0010-0929-0X

<u>D STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

YUTARO KANEKO ET AL

: EXAMINER: WILSON

SERIAL NO: 09/087,513

FILED: MAY 29, 1998

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1633

FOR: METHOD FOR INDUCING

IMMUNITY TO VIRUSES

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated July 5, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as shown in the marked-up copy to read as follows:

Page 26, replace the text beginning at line 12 with the following paragraph:

--The HIV-1IIIB isolate was the source of the full-length env gene and the $\Delta V3$ loop

mutant cloned in the pSCII-based vector under the control of a synthetic early/late vv

promoter (Earl et al, 1990, Removal of cryptic poxvirus transcription termination signals

from the human immunodeficiency virus type 1 envelope gene enhances expression and

immunogenicity of a recombinant vaccinia virus. J Virol. 64:2448-2451). The vv-ΔV3

mutant with the $\Delta 2\%7$ -329 deletion (15, incorporated by reference herein in its entirety) was

constructed by ligation of fragments obtained by PCR amplification from the pSVII-env

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